United States Environmental Protection Agency

The Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 3): Data Summary

June 2015

EPA uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) program to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water, but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Every five years EPA develops a new list of UCMR contaminants, largely based on the Contaminant Candidate List (CCL). The SDWA Amendments of 1996 provide for:

- Monitoring no more than 30 contaminants per 5-year cycle
- Monitoring only a representative sample of public water systems serving less than or equal to 10,000 people
- Storing analytical results in a National Contaminant Occurrence Database (NCOD)

This dataset represents the seventh NCOD release of analytical results for UCMR 3. Updates will occur approximately quarterly and EPA anticipates that additional reference material will be made available to assist with the assessment of the UCMR 3 data. For more information about UCMR 3, please visit our website: http://water.epa.gov/lawsregs/rulesregs/sdwa/ucmr/ucmr3/index.cfm. Information regarding many of the UCMR 3 contaminants (including a description of their use) may also be found at the CCL website: http://water.epa.gov/scitech/drinkingwater/dws/ccl/ccl3.cfm#chemical.

UCMR 3 Data Considerations

- This dataset is not complete. UCMR 3 monitoring occurs through December 2015, and data are expected to be reported to EPA through the summer of 2016.
- Data are added and possibly removed or updated over the course of this reporting cycle. These results are subject to change following further review by the analytical laboratory, the public water system, the State and EPA.
- Data are presented as method-specific text files (UCMR3_200_8.txt, UCMR3_218_7.txt, UCMR3_300_1.txt, UCMR3_522.txt, UCMR3_524_3.txt, UCMR3_537.txt, UCMR3_539.txt, EPA_1615A, EPA_1615B, EPA_1615C, EPA_1615D, EPA_1615E, SM_9223B, ASTM_D6503_99, SM_9218, EPA_1602), one text file containing disinfectant residual type (UCMR3_DRT.txt), one text file containing the U.S. Postal Service Zip Code(s) for all areas served by a PWS (UCMR3_ZipCodes.txt) and one text file containing all UCMR 3 data to date (UCMR3_All.txt).
- These text files are tab delimited and have no text qualifier. Field names are included in the first row of each file.
- If you wish to perform additional data analyses, EPA suggests you import each field into your choice of software as text. Some of the IDs can be misinterpreted as long integer field types when they actually contain alpha characters.
- Samples collected at the maximum residence time in the distribution system (MR) are required to be analyzed for metals (including chromium-6) and chlorate.
- Water systems monitoring for Method 300.1 (chlorate) report disinfectant types.
- Population categories are based on retail population as indicated by the Safe Drinking Water Information System (Federal) (SDWIS/FED) as of December 31, 2010.
- In addition to reporting occurrence data for UCMR 3 target analytes, EPA tasked its small-system contract-support laboratories with reporting results for sec-butylbenzene, n-propylbenzene, tellurium, germanium and manganese. These additional unregulated analytes are within the scope of the methods already being performed for the UCMR analytes.

UCMR 3 Data Field Names and Definitions

Field Name	Definition
PWSID	Public Water System Identification Code, 9-character identification code (Begins with the standard 2-character postal State abbreviation or Region code, and the remaining seven numbers are unique to each PWS in the state)
PWSName	Name of the Public Water System (PWS)
Size	Size category of the PWS for UCMR, based on retail population as of December 31, 2010
	S: ≤ 10,000
	L: > 10,000
FacilityID	Public Water System Facility Identification Code, 5-digit identification code
FacilityName	Name of the facility at the PWS
FacilityWaterType	Source of water at the facility
	SW: Surface water
	GW: Ground water
	GU: Ground water under the direct influence of surface water
	MX: Any combination of SW, GW and GU
SamplePointID	Identification code for each sample point location in the PWS
SamplePointName	Name of the sample point for every sample point ID at a PWS
SamplePointType	Sampling Point Type Code
	EP: Entry point to the distribution system
	MR: Distribution system at maximum residence time
AssociatedFacilityID	The facility ID of the associated DS/MRT
AssociatedSamplePointID	The sample point ID of the associated DS/MRT

Field Name	Definition
Disinfectant Type	CLGA: Gaseous Chlorine
	CLOF: Offsite Generated Hypochlorite (stored as liquid)
	CLON: Onsite Generated Hypochlorite (no storage)
	CAGC: Chloramine (formed from gaseous chlorine)
	CAOF: Chloramine (formed from offsite hypochlorite)
	CAON: Chloramine (formed from onsite hypochlorite)
	CLDO: Chlorine Dioxide
	OZON: Ozone
	ULVL: Ultraviolet Light
	OTHD: All other types of disinfectant
	NODU: No Disinfectant Used
CollectionDate	Date of sample collection (month, day, year)
SampleID	Identification code for each sample, as defined by the laboratory
Contaminant	Unregulated contaminant being analyzed in UCMR 3
MRL	Minimum Reporting Level defined by UCMR 3
MethodID	Identification code of the analytical method
AnalyticalResultsSign	Less than (<) the minimum reporting level (MRL) or equal to (=) a numeric value at or above the MRL
AnalyticalResultValue	Numeric value of the analytical result, null values represent less than MRL
SampleEventCode	Identification code for each sample event. Includes sample event one (SE1), sample event two (SE2), sample event three (SE3), and sample event four (SE4).

Field Name	Definition
MonitoringRequirement	AM: Assessment Monitoring (List 1)
	SS: Screening Survey (List 2)
	PST: Pre-Screen Testing (List 3)
Region	EPA Region: States
	1: CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
	2: NJ, NY, PR (Puerto Rico), VI (Virgin Islands)
	3: DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV
	4: AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN
	5: IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI
	6: AR, LA, NM, OK, TX
	7: IA, KS, MO, NE
	8: CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY
	9: AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS (American Samoa), GU (Guam), MP (Northern Marianas Islands), NN (Navajo Nation)
	10: AK, ID, OR, WA
State	State abbreviation
ZipCode	U.S. Postal Service zip code(s) for all areas being served water by a PWS

UCMR 3 Chemical Contaminants and Methods

Contaminant	Contaminant Full Name	CAS[1] Number	Method ID	Method Name	Monitoring Requirement
1,2,3-trichloropropane	1,2,3-trichloropropane	96-18-4	524.3	Volatile Organic Compounds	AM
1,3-butadiene	1,3-butadiene	106-99-0	524.3	Volatile Organic Compounds	AM
Chloromethane	methyl chloride	74-87-3	524.3	Volatile Organic Compounds	AM
1,1-dichloroethane	1,1-dichloroethane	75-34-3	524.3	Volatile Organic Compounds	AM
Bromomethane	methyl bromide	74-83-9	524.3	Volatile Organic Compounds	AM
HCFC-22	chlorodifluoromethane	75-45-6	524.3	Volatile Organic Compounds	AM
Halon 1011	bromochloromethane	74-97-5	524.3	Volatile Organic Compounds	AM
1,4-dioxane	1,4-dioxane	123-91-1	522	Synthetic Organic Compound	AM
Vanadium	vanadium	7440-62-2	200.8	Metals	AM
Molybdenum	molybdenum	7439-98-7	200.8	Metals	AM
Cobalt	Cobalt	7440-48-4	200.8	Metals	AM
Strontium	Strontium	7440-24-6	200.8	Metals	AM
Chromium	total chromium	N/A	200.8	Metals	AM
Chromium-6	chromium-6	18540-29-9	218.7	Chromium-6	AM
Chlorate	Chlorate	14866-68-3	300.1	Oxyhalide Anion	AM
PFOS	perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	1763-23-1	537	Perfluorinated Compounds	AM
PFOA	perfluorooctanoic acid	335-67-1	537	Perfluorinated Compounds	AM
PFNA	perfluorononanoic acid	375-95-1	537	Perfluorinated Compounds	AM
PFHxS	perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	355-46-4	537	Perfluorinated Compounds	AM
PFHpA	perfluoroheptanoic acid	375-85-9	537	Perfluorinated Compounds	AM
PFBS	perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	375-73-5	537	Perfluorinated Compounds	AM
17β-estradiol	estradiol	50-28-2	539	Hormones	SS
17α-ethynylestradiol	ethinyl estradiol	57-63-6	539	Hormones	SS
Estriol	16-α-hydroxyestradiol	50-27-1	539	Hormones	SS
Equilin	Equilin	474-86-2	539	Hormones	SS
Estrone	Estrone	53-16-7	539	Hormones	SS
Testosterone	testosterone	58-22-0	539	Hormones	SS
4-androstene-3,17-dione	4-androstene-3,17-dione	63-05-8	539	Hormones	SS

[1]Chemical Abstract Service

UCMR 3 Microbiological Contaminants and Methods

Contaminant	Method ID	Method Name	Monitoring Requirement
Enteroviruses	EPA 1615A	Enterovirus cell culture	PST
Enteroviruses	EPA 1615B	Enterovirus RT-qPCR	PST
Noroviruses	EPA 1615C	Norovirus genogroup I with RT-qPCR primer set A	PST
Noroviruses	EPA 1615D	Norovirus genogroup I with RT-qPCR primer set B	PST
Noroviruses	EPA 1615E	Noroviruses genogroup II	PST
Total coliforms	SM 9223B	Colilert®	PST
E.coli	SM 9223B	Colilert®	PST
Enterococci	ASTM D6503-99	Enterolert®	PST
Aerobic spores	SM 9218	Aerobic endospores	PST
Somatic phage	EPA 1602	Bacteriophage	PST
Male specific phage	EPA 1602	Bacteriophage	PST

UCMR 3 Reference Concentrations for Chemical Contaminants

Under the current cycle of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 3) chemicals are being studied at levels that are often significantly below those in prior UCMR cycles. Importantly, UCMR 3 minimum reporting levels (MRLs) were established based on the capability of the analytical method, not based on a level established as "significant" or "harmful." In fact, the UCMR 3 MRLs are often below current "health reference levels" (to the extent that HRLs have been established).

Results of UCMR 3 measurements should be interpreted accordingly. The detection of a UCMR 3 contaminant above the MRL does not represent cause for concern, in and of itself. Rather, the implications of the detection should be judged considering health effects information (which is often still under development or being refined for unregulated contaminants).

The intent of the following table is to identify draft UCMR reference concentrations, where possible, to provide context around the detection of a particular UCMR contaminant above the MRL. The draft reference concentration does not represent an "action level" (EPA requires no particular action[1,2] based simply on the fact that UCMR monitoring results exceed draft reference concentrations), nor should the draft reference concentration be interpreted as any indication of an Agency intent to establish a future drinking water regulation for the contaminant at this or any other level. Decisions as to whether or not to regulate the contaminant in drinking water will continue to be made following the Agency's Regulatory Determination process: [http://water.epa.gov/scitech/drinkingwater/dws/ccl/index.cfm].

The following key principles guided the development of the table:

(1) The reference concentrations are based on publically-available health information found in the following EPA resources: 2012 Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories, the CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets, the Human Health Benchmark for Pesticides (HHBPs), the Integrated Information Risk System (IRIS), or the 2014 Preliminary Regulatory Determinations for Contaminants on CCL 3. The primary/secondary sources of health information vary with respect to scientific rigor from health assessment to single studies and are cited in the table.
(2) If health information was available from more than one of the EPA resources listed above, the most recent health information was used for the draft reference concentrations.
(3) Where both cancer and non-cancer draft reference concentrations existed, the lower (more conservative) of the two concentrations was used. For chemicals with reference concentrations based on a cancer endpoint, the table presents a range of values associated with 10^{-6} to 10^{-4} cancer risk. For chemicals with reference concentrations based on a non-cancer endpoint, the duration of exposure (short-term, intermediate/long-term, chronic) of the toxicity factor (e.g. Reference Dose) used as the basis for the reference concentration is shown.

Recognizing that additional health effects information will become available over time, EPA will periodically update the following table. Those attempting to assess UCMR occurrence data are encouraged to visit EPA's website for the most recent information.

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[1] Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) and Public Notification (PN) reporting requirements (see 40 CFR 141.153(d) and 141.207, respectively) apply to public water systems; CCR requires particular reporting based on measurements relative to the UCMR method reporting limits (MRLs) defined in 40 CFR 141.40.
[2]States may establish requirements for drinking water contaminants not yet regulated by EPA, and those requirements may be based on State-established levels that differ from EPA's reference concentrations. Public Water Systems are responsible for being aware of and complying with their State's requirements, if any.

Contaminant	***MRL (µg/L)***	***Reference Concentration (µg/L)***	***Reference Concentration based on a Cancer Endpoint (Y/N)***	***EPA Reference(s)***
Cobalt[1]	1	70	N (intermediate exposure)	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
Molybdenum[2]	1	40	N (chronic exposure)	2012 Edition of the Health Advisories Table
Strontium[3]	0.3	1,500	N (chronic exposure)	Federal Register Notice for the Preliminary Regulatory Determinations for Contaminants on CCL 3
Vanadium[1,4]	0.2	21	N (intermediate exposure)	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
Chromium (Total)	0.2	100	N (chronic exposure)	The MCL for the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation
Chromium-6[1]	0.03	N/A		
Chlorate	20	210	N (chronic exposure)	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
1,4-dioxane[5]	0.07	0.35 to 35	Y	2012 Edition of the Health Advisories Table
1,1-dichloroethane[5]	0.03	6.14 to 614	Y	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
1,2,3-trichloropropane[5,6,7]	0.03	0.0004 to 0.04	Y	2009 IRIS Assessment
1,3-butadiene[5,6]	0.1	0.0103 to 1.03	Y	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets

[1] The contaminant is on the IRIS 2012 Agenda for either a new assessment or an updated assessment (Federal Register Notice May 7, 2012).

[2] The 2012 Edition of the Health Advisories Table and the CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets (35 µg/L) have slightly different numbers due to rounding.

[3] The reference concentration has been updated based on the HRL cited in the preliminary regulatory determination for strontium [Docket No. EPA-HQ-OW-2012-0155].

[4] The ATSDR, 1992 used for the CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets is no longer publically available and has been replaced by a new assessment (ATSDR, 2013). The minimum risk level (RfD equivalent) was 0.003 mg/kg/day for minor renal effects in an animal study (ATSDR, 1992) compared to 0.01 mg/kg/day for lack of minor effects in blood pressure, body weight, and hematological parameters in a human study with a 12 weeks exposure (ATSDR, 2013).

[5] Reference Concentration range based on cancer risk of 10^{-6} to 10^{-4}.

[6] 10^{-6} cancer risk < MRL < 10^{-4} cancer risk.

[7] To derive the reference concentration, age dependent adjustment factors were applied to the IRIS oral slope factor of 30 per mg/kg-day (calculated using adult exposure data) to address presumed early-life susceptibility for this chemical (per www.epa.gov/cancerguidelines/).

Contaminant	*MRL (µg/L)*	*Reference Concentration (µg/L)*	*Reference Concentration based on a Cancer Endpoint (Y/N)*	*EPA Reference(s)*
HCFC-22 (chlorodifluoromethane) [8]	0.08	N/A		
Chloromethane (methyl chloride)[5]	0.2	2.69 to 269	Y	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
Halon 1011 (bromochloromethane)[9]	0.06	90	N (chronic exposure)	2012 Edition of the Health Advisories Table
Bromomethane (methyl bromide)	0.2	140	N (chronic exposure)	Human Health Benchmark for Pesticides (HHBPs)
PFBS	0.09	N/A		
PFHpA	0.01	N/A		
PFHxS	0.03	N/A		
PFNA	0.02	N/A		
PFOS	0.04	0.2	N (short-term exposure)	2012 Edition of the Health Advisories Table
PFOA	0.02	0.4	N (short-term exposure)	2012 Edition of the Health Advisories Table
17α-ethynylestradiol (ethinyl estradiol)[10]	0.0009	0.035	N (chronic exposure)	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
17β-estradiol (estradiol)[5]	0.0004	0.0009 to 0.09	Y	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
Equilin	0.004	0.35	N (chronic exposure)	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
Estriol (16-α-hydroxyestradiol)	0.0008	0.35	N (chronic exposure)	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
Estrone	0.002	0.35	N (chronic exposure)	CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
4-androstene-3,17-dione	0.0003	N/A		
Testosterone	0.0001	N/A		

[8] The CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets provide a reference level of 31.5 µg/L; the number is based on a single LOAEL from a 1983 study.

[9] The 2012 Edition of the Health Advisories Table and the CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets (70 µg/L) have slightly different numbers due to rounding.

[10] This corrects the CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets reference level (originally listed as 0.28 µg/L).

Terms

a) UCMR Draft Reference Concentration = The reference concentrations are based on publically-available health information found in the following EPA resources: 2012 Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories, the CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets, the Human Health Benchmark for Pesticides (HHBPs), or the 2014 Preliminary Regulatory Determinations for Contaminants on CCL 3. The primary/secondary sources of health information vary with respect to scientific rigor from health assessment to single studies. Many of the contaminants are currently under regulatory review or development and are subject to change as new health assessments are completed.
b) MRL = UCMR Minimum Reporting Level. *[Note that the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) uses the term "MRL" for a different purpose (i.e., to describe "Minimal Risk Levels"). The UCMR term and the ATSDR term have no relationship to each other.]*
c) HRLs = Health Reference Levels. HRLs are not final determinations about the level of a contaminant in drinking water that is necessary to protect any particular population and are derived prior to development of a complete exposure assessment. HRLs are risk derived concentrations against which to evaluate the occurrence data to determine if contaminants occur at levels of potential public health concern.
d) MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are enforceable standards.
e) Cancer Risk of 10^{-6} to 10^{-4} = the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water corresponding to an excess estimated lifetime cancer risk of one-in-a-million ($1x\ 10^{-6}$) to one-in-ten-thousand (1×10^{-4}). The 2012 Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories provide the cancer risk at 1×10^{-4}. The CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets provide the cancer risk at $1x\ 10^{-6}$.
f) LOAEL = Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level
g) N/A = Not Available
h) Short-term = Typically refers to animal toxicological studies with an exposure duration of days to weeks.
i) Intermediate/Longer-term = Typically refers to animal toxicological studies with an exposure duration of weeks to months.
j) Chronic = Typically refers to animal toxicological studies with an exposure duration of months to years; representing a lifetime exposure in humans.

References

k) 2012 Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories
l) CCL 3 Contaminant Information Sheets
m) Human Health Benchmark for Pesticides (HHBPs)
n) Announcement of Preliminary Regulatory Determinations for Contaminants on the Third Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List
o) Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS)

June 2015 UCMR 3 Data Summary for Chemical Contaminants

Contaminant	MRL[1]	Reference Concentration [1]	Total number of results	Number of results ≥MRL	Number of results >Reference Concentration	% of total results >Reference Concentration	Total number of PWSs with results	Number of PWSs with results ≥MRL	Number of PWSs with results >Reference Concentration	% of PWSs with results >Reference Concentration
1,2,3-trichloropropane	0.03	0.0004 / 0.04[2]	28,901	217	217 / 168[2]	0.8% / 0.6%[2]	4,398	59	59 / 50[2]	1.3% / 1.1%[2]
1,3-butadiene	0.1	0.0103 / 1.03[2]	28,901	1	1 / 0[2]	0.003% / 0%[2]	4,398	1	1 / 0[2]	0.02% / 0%[2]
Chloromethane	0.2	2.69 / 269[2]	28,899	209	18 / 0[2]	0.06% / 0%[2]	4,398	108	7 / 0[2]	0.2% / 0%[2]
1,1-dichloroethane	0.03	6.14 / 614[2]	28,900	686	1 / 0[2]	0.003% / 0%[2]	4,398	209	1 / 0[2]	0.02% / 0%[2]
Bromomethane	0.2	140	28,900	98	0	0%	4,398	45	0	0%
HCFC-22	0.08	N/A	28,901	661	- -	- -	4,398	245	- -	- -
Halon 1011	0.06	90	28,901	539	0	0%	4,398	260	0	0%
1,4-dioxane	0.07	0.35 / 35[2]	28,702	3,350	882 / 0[2]	3.1% / 0%[2]	4,394	943	294/ 0[2]	6.7% / 0%[2]
Vanadium	0.2	21	49,219	29,617	1,402	2.8%	4,413	3,185	145	3.3%
Molybdenum	1	40	49,230	20,473	121	0.2%	4,413	2,261	31	0.7%
Cobalt	1	70	49,216	722	3	0.006%	4,413	215	3	0.07%
Strontium	0.3	1,500	49,157	48,982	1,312	2.7%	4,413	4,412	247	5.6%
Chromium	0.2	100	49,094	24,791	1	0.002%	4,413	3,220	1	0.02%
Chromium-6	0.03	N/A	49,159	36,992	- -	- -	4,425	3,899	- -	- -
Chlorate	20	210	49,172	27,459	7,574	15.4%	4,412	2,994	1,590	36%
PFOS	0.04	0.2	29,076	234	31	0.1%	4,418	87	17	0.4%
PFOA	0.02	0.4	29,075	287	0	0%	4,418	94	0	0%
PFNA	0.02	N/A	29,076	17	- -	- -	4,418	13	- -	- -
PFHxS	0.03	N/A	29,076	176	- -	- -	4,418	52	- -	- -
PFHpA	0.01	N/A	29,076	193	- -	- -	4,418	70	- -	- -
PFBS	0.09	N/A	29,076	8	- -	- -	4,418	5	- -	- -
17β-estradiol	0.0004	0.0009 / 0.09[2]	9,027	3	1 / 0[2]	0.01% / 0%[2]	961	1	1 / 0[2]	0.1% / 0%[2]
17α-ethynylestradiol	0.0009	0.035	9,028	3	0	0%	961	3	0	0%
Estriol	0.0008	0.35	9,027	1	0	0%	961	1	0	0%
Equilin	0.004	0.35	9,028	0	0	0%	961	0	0	0%
Estrone	0.002	0.35	9,028	0	0	0%	961	0	0	0%
Testosterone	0.0001	N/A	9,027	51	- -	- -	961	45	- -	- -
4-androstene-3,17-dione	0.0003	N/A	9,028	73	- -	- -	961	55	- -	- -

[1]Measured in µg/L (ppb)
[2]Where two reference concentrations are listed, the first number is associated with a 10^{-6} cancer risk; the second number a 10^{-4} cancer risk.
Where two results are presented the first number is associated with the first reference concentration; the second number is associated with the second reference concentration.

June 2015 UCMR 3 Data Summary for Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MRL	Unit	Total number of results	Number of results ≥MRL	Total number of PWSs with results	Number of PWSs with results ≥MRL
Aerobic spores	1	SFO/100 mL	511	155	492	153
E. coli	1	MPN/100 mL	511	3	492	3
Enterococci	1	MPN/100 mL	513	33	494	33
Enteroviruses (cell culture)	0.002	MPN/L	507	2	488	2
Enteroviruses (RT-qPCR)	0.398	GC/L	507	6	488	6
Male specific phage	1	PFU/100 mL	515	9	496	9
Noroviruses GIA	0.398	GC/L	507	0	488	0
Noroviruses GIB	0.398	GC/L	507	1	488	1
Noroviruses GII	0.398	GC/L	507	4	488	4
Somatic phage	1	PFU/100 mL	515	3	496	3
Total coliforms	1	MPN/100 mL	511	29	492	28

UCMR 3 Minimum Reporting Levels for Microbiological Contaminants

Under UCMR 3 microbe analytical results are reported as "below", "at" or "above" MRL. UCMR 3 MRLs were established based on the capability of the analytical method.

It is important to note that microbial contamination can be transient in nature and microbial detections under UCMR 3 should be interpreted in the context of the time samples were collected. However, the presence of any UCMR 3 microbe indicates a potential vulnerability of the PWS to contamination.